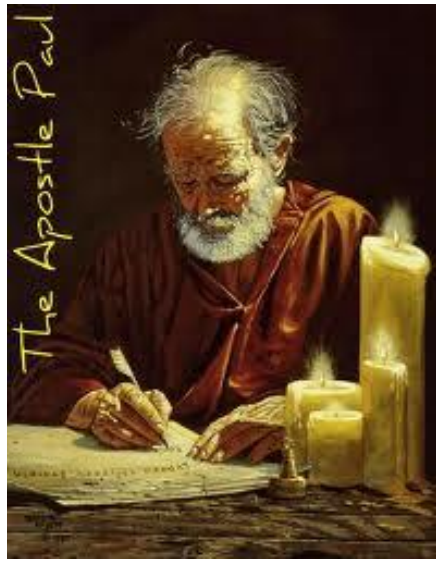




Paul's Letter to the Romans



**The Righteousness of
God has been Revealed!**



**Chapter 9:
God's Election and
the true Israel of God**

Romans 9-11: Paul's appeal to Jews



- Paul clarifies that God still intends to bless Israel
- A door has been opened right now for Gentiles
- God's treatment of Gentiles today should make Jews jealous
- Eventually Jews will be grafted in God's tree again
- And so all Israel will be saved (11:26)

Concerning the election they are
beloved for the sake of the
fathers (11:28)



Paul's has already knocked down many Jewish traditions...



- **2:17-24** God doesn't show favoritism to all Jews
salvation is individual
- **2:25** Circumcision was no guarantee of God's favor
- **2:26** Uncircumcised Gentiles who live by the spirit of the Law are counted as circumcised
- **2:29** Men are real Jews based on their character
- **3:19** Law was not designed to give eternal life
- **3:29** God is the God of the Gentiles as well as the Jews
- **4:12** Abraham was a father to Gentiles!
- **5:12** All men are born under condemnation
- **6:1-7** Baptism is for all men, not just Gentiles who come into synagogue
- **7** The Law actually increased the frequency of sin
- **8** World is divided between Spiritual & carnal, not Jews & Gentiles

**Jews listening to Paul may have thought
Paul taught God was done with Israel**

What Jews were being told about Paul

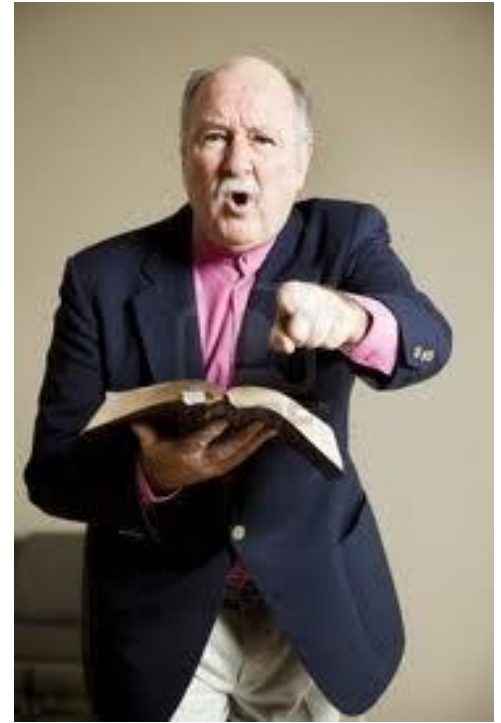
Acts 21:17-21

17 And **when we had come to Jerusalem**, the brethren received us gladly. 18 On the following day **Paul went in with us to James, and all the elders were present.** 19 When he had greeted them, he told in detail those things which God had done among the Gentiles through his ministry. 20 And when they heard it, they glorified the Lord. And they said to him, **"You see, brother, how many myriads of Jews there are who have believed, and they are all zealous for the law; 21 but they have been informed about you that you teach all the Jews who are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise their children nor to walk according to the customs.**

**Nothing wrong with Jewish customs,
but they will not save you**

Imagine a born & raised Christadelphian converted to Pentecostal & doing this to us!

- Christadelphians depend too much on heritage and years in the community
- Baptism is meaningless
- KJV Bible is archaic & shouldn't be used
- Men shouldn't wear suits & ties
- Women wearing head coverings is a waste – God wants submission
- Don't close your eyes when you pray...look up to heaven
- Taking bread & wine isn't necessary – God wants faith, appreciation & commitment
- God is saving Christians everywhere who live by faith



**You can understand why Jews felt Paul's
gospel provided little hope for Israel**

Paul's Love for his Nation

Romans 9:1-5

1 **I tell the truth in Christ**, I am not lying, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Spirit, 2 that I have great sorrow and continual grief in my heart. 3 **For I could wish** that I myself were accursed from Christ for my brethren, my countrymen according to the flesh, 4 who are **Israelites**, to whom pertain the **adoption**, the **glory**, the **covenants**, the giving of the **law**, the **service** of God, and the **promises**; 5 of whom are the **fathers** and from whom, according to the flesh, **Christ** came, who is over all, the eternally blessed God. Amen.

God blessed Israel with so many privileges

Paul's sincerity towards Israel

- **I tell Truth, am not lying** (Gal 1:20; 1 Tim 2:7; 2 Cor 11:3) – difficult to prove!
- **Conscience bearing me witness in the Holy spirit** (like 8:26) – Paul's mind & his conscience are together on this!
- **Paul has great sorrow** & grief for Jews (v.2)
- **I *could* wish myself accursed** (like Moses), but Paul understands God's election – maybe better than Moses did at the time
 - Paul trying to illustrate his sincerity
 - Jesus was accursed for the Jews!



Paul yearns for the Jews, but also understands God's election

Privileges of Israel

- **Israelites:** members of Jacob's family, "power with God", plead to God with tears to save them
- **Adoption:** taken into God's family
- **Glory of the covenants:** Ex 20 (the 10 commandments) & Deut 29 (the new covenant)
- **Giving of the Law:** National Law for serving God
- **Service of God:** God chose Levites to serve in His house
- **Promises:** God's promises to Abraham
- **Fathers:** Abraham, Isaac, Jacob

The Jewish community was truly blessed by God



Jewish thinking

- God will bless children of Abraham
- Children of Abraham are viewed in a special way by God
- We are children of Abraham – so we are special
- God is obligated to bless us – we have a special claim to God's blessing



Paul's answer: For not all
who are descended from
Israel belong to Israel



- Romans 9 is NOT about who is accepted at the judgment seat of Christ
- It is about who has the opportunity to join God's family and are responsible to the judgment seat - Who God selects to have the opportunity to become His children

Not all of Abraham's offspring are children of Abraham by Faith



Romans 9:6-8

6 But it is not that the word of God has taken no effect [God's plan has not failed!]. **For they are not all Israel who are of Israel,**

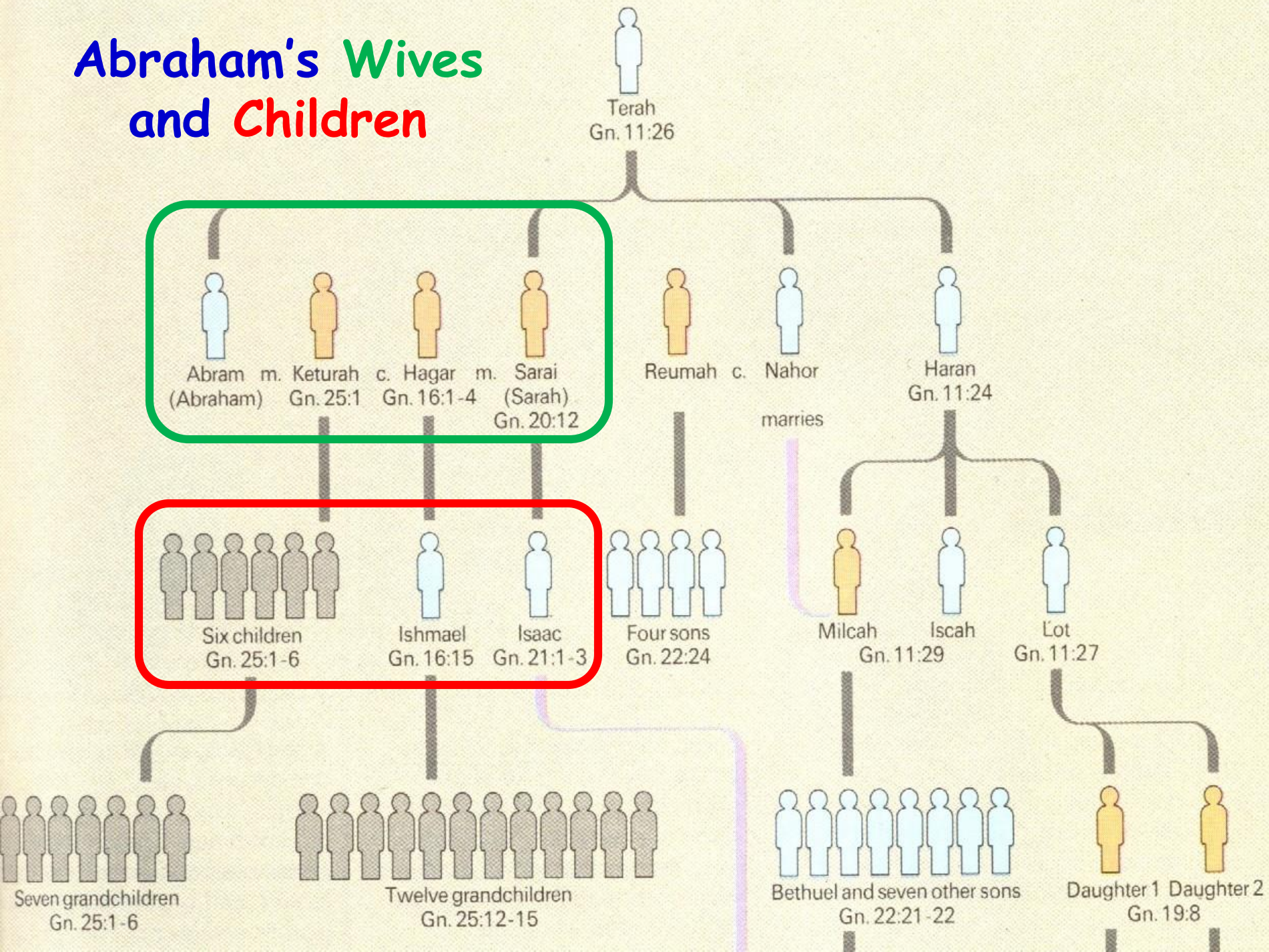
7 nor are they all children because they are the seed of Abraham; but, "In Isaac your seed shall be called."

8 That is, those who are the **children of the flesh**, these are not the children of God; but the **children of the promise** are counted as the seed.

So far: Not all of Abraham's children are God's children



Abraham's Wives and Children



God's Election

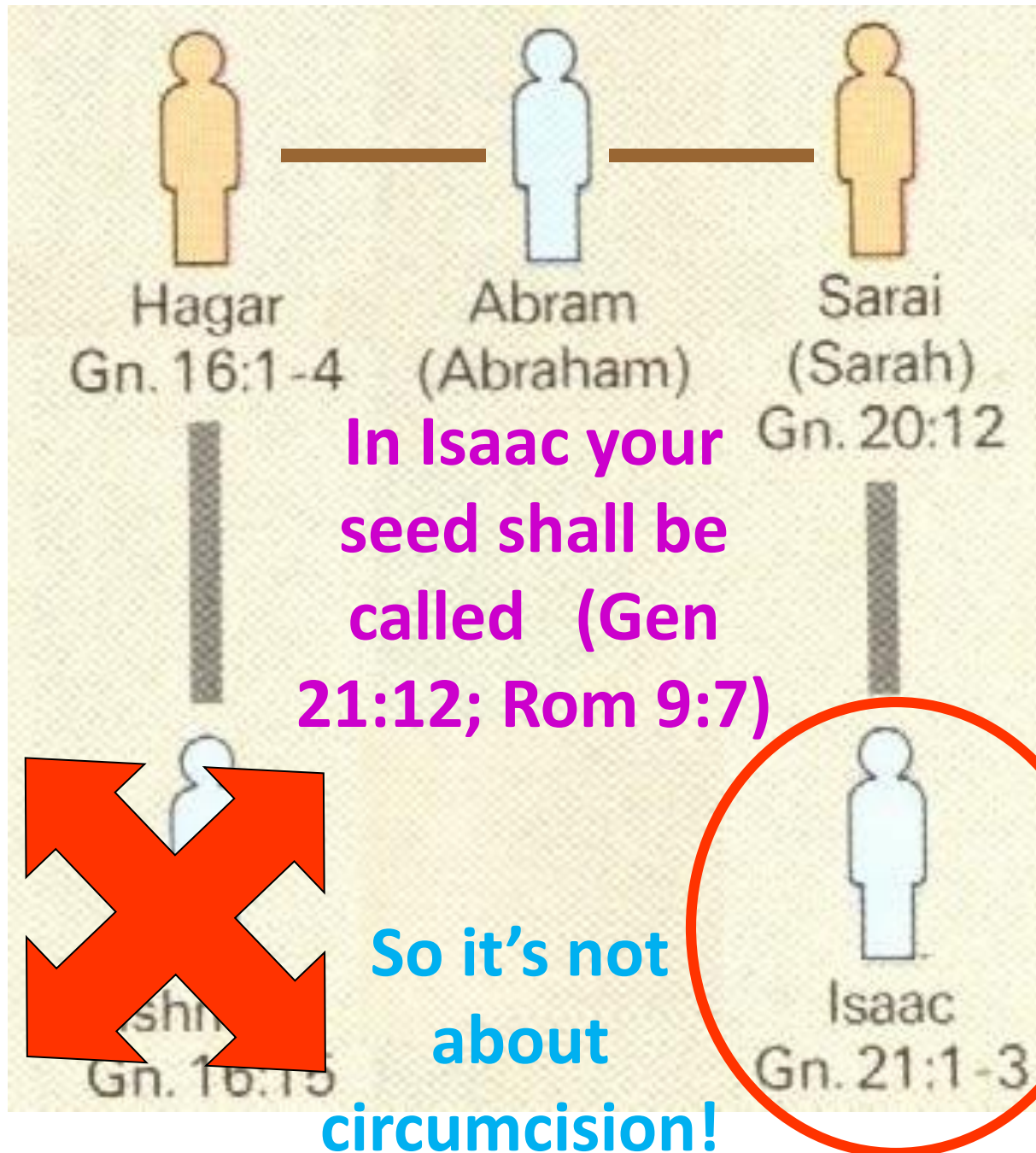
One man,
two women,
(Hagar was a
bondswoman)

God doesn't call
Ishmael

Abraham's son
(Gen 21:11-14)

Which one was
circumcised?

BOTH!



God rejected Ishmael because
of how he was conceived

Romans 9:9

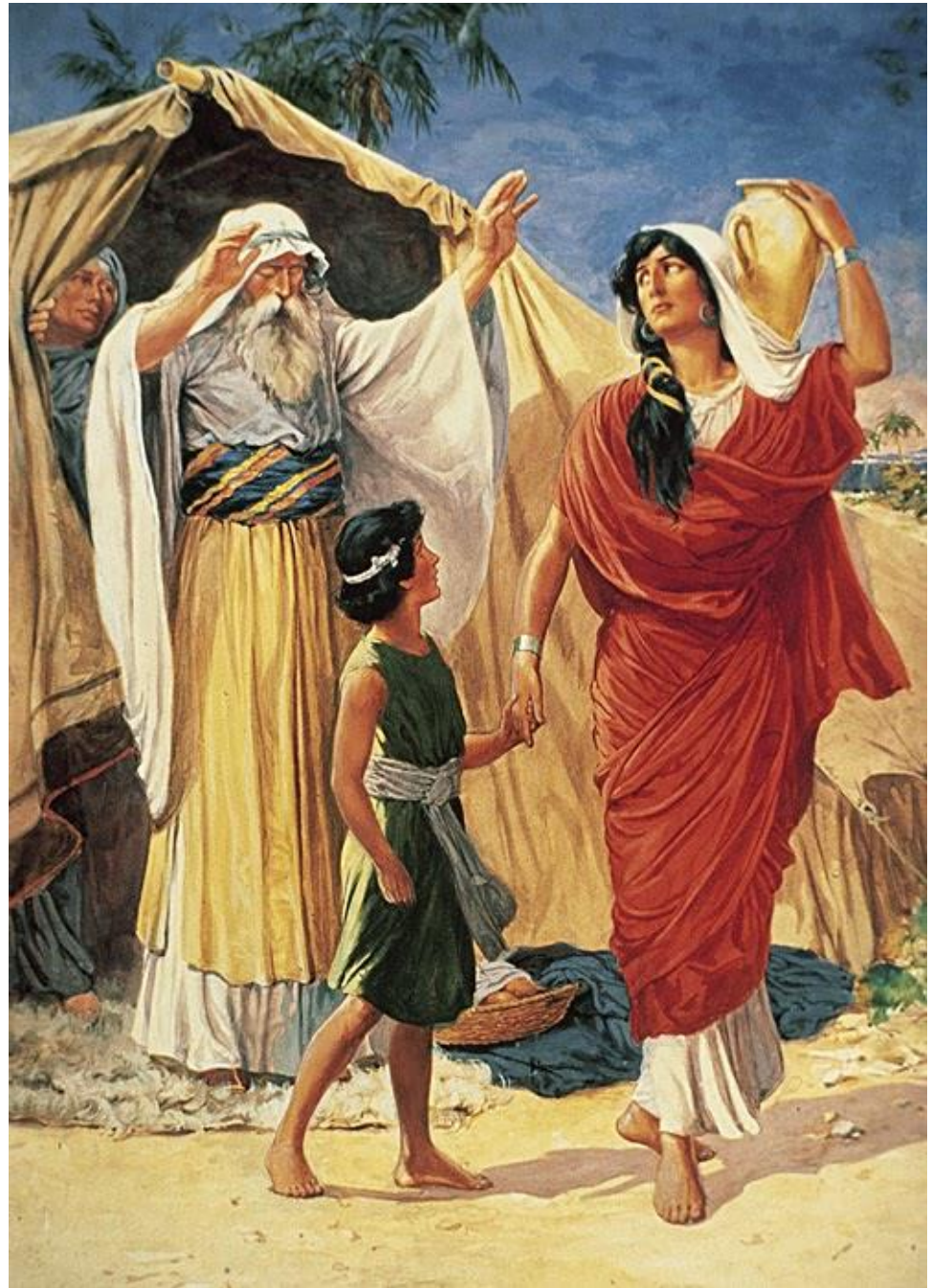
9 For this is the word of **promise**:
"At this time **I will come** and
Sarah shall have a son."

It's all of God! It's His election!
Isaac was not selected just
because he was Abraham's son!

"Take now your son, your only son,
whom you love, Isaac (Gen 22:2)

The Jews thought
God rejected
Ishmael because
he was the son of
a slave and he
mocked Isaac

Paul tries to get
them to realize that
God rejected
Ishmael because he
was born of a plan
conceived by humans
- not by God's
miraculous promise!



Jewish Reaction: We're pretty good!



- **Still feeling pretty good!**
- **Completely agreed** that descendants of Hagar through Ishmael were not part of God's family
- **But....Paul has got them to acknowledge** that not all of Abraham's children are God's children! Why???
- Jews thought this was because Ishmael was Abraham's son through a bondswoman
- Paul develops that it is because of God's election

So, how do you get the Jews to realize that it wasn't about Abraham's two different wives & one being a bondswoman?

This made the issue clear!

Romans 9:10-13

10 And not only this, but when Rebecca also had conceived by **one man**, even by our father Isaac

11 **(for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to election might stand, not of works but of Him who calls),**

12 it was said to her, "The older shall serve the younger."

13 As it is written, "**Jacob I have loved, but Esau I have hated.**"

God made His choice before the kids had done anything good or evil!

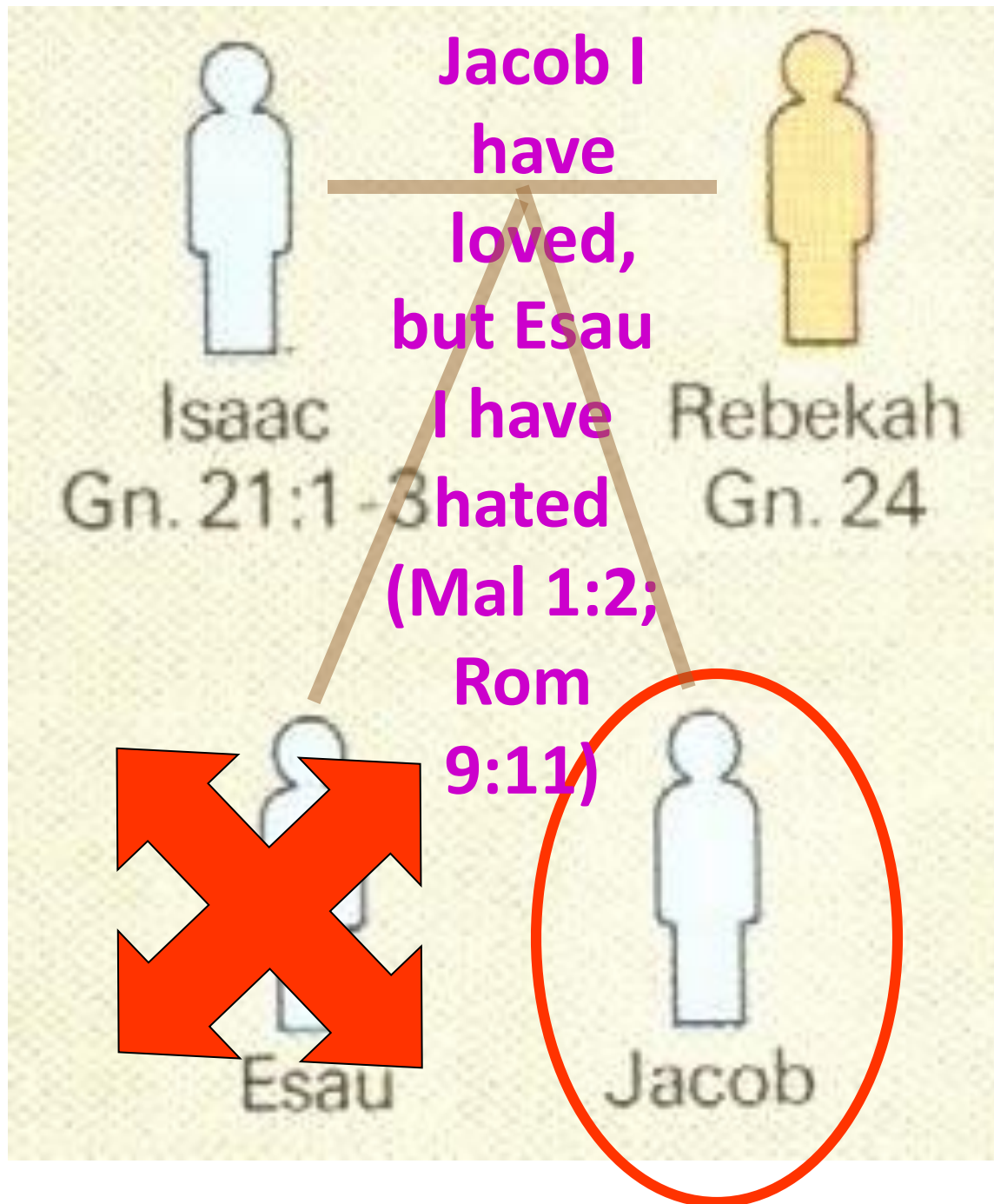
God's Election

One man, one wife

Two boys born at the same time!

God made his selection before they had done anything!

His selection involved 2 nations!
Not just 2 boys!
(Malachi 1:2-3)



God's Election: He's the Potter



7 Billion people
on earth today

What if God decides to only
work with the people in South
America? Is that fair?

Does everyone get an equal opportunity
to know & understand the Gospel?

**Don't
FORGET!**



**Not
ours!**

**It's GOD'S
Family!**



**God is
Building
His Family**

Basis for God's choice - His election

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

26 For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

27 **But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;**

28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,

29 **that no flesh should glory in His presence.**

30 But of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God-- and righteousness and sanctification and redemption--

31 that, as it is written, "He who glories, let him glory in the Lord."

**God's choice is designed so "no flesh
should glory in His presence"**

Israel was not better than Gentiles!

God and Jesus choose their family

Matthew 11:25-27

25 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, **that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and have revealed them to babes.** 26 Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight. 27 All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, **and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.**

It's not up to us to make someone believe

God's Election - It's His choice

John 6:37, 44, 65

37 **All that the Father gives Me will come to Me**, and the one who comes to Me I will by no means cast out.

44 **No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him**; and I will raise him up at the last day.

65 And He said, "Therefore I have said to you that **no one can come to Me unless it has been granted to him by My Father.**"

**No one can come to God
unless God calls him**

God's Election - It's His choice

Luke 10:21-22

21 In that hour Jesus rejoiced in the Spirit and said, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and prudent and **revealed them to babes**. Even so, Father, for so it seemed good in Your sight.

22 All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows who the Son is except the Father, and who the Father is except the Son, and **the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.**"

God has given Jesus the authority to choose

God's Election - It's His choice

John 15:16

16 **You did not choose Me, but I chose you** and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you.

It's clear in the lives of the Apostles & Paul himself that Jesus specifically chose and called them!

Jesus chose Judas, but he didn't make it

God makes the call

Acts 2:39

38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, **as many as the Lord our God will call.**"

God's promise is only available to those who He chooses to call

God's Election - It's His choice

Ephesians 1:3-6

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

4 **just as He chose us in Him before the foundation of the world,** that we should be holy and without blame before Him in love,

5 **having predestined us to adoption as sons by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of His will,**

6 to the praise of the glory of His grace, by which He made us accepted in the Beloved.

God chose His family members before creation!

God calls & then enlightens

Ephesians 1:16-18 (ESV)

16 I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, 17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, **may give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, 18 having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you,** what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints,

Without God's influence we would end up like unenlightened Paul as a Judaiser

God's Election - It's His choice

Romans 8:28-30

28 And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, **to those who are the called according to His purpose.** 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son, that He might be the firstborn among many brethren. 30 **Moreover whom He predestined, these He also called; whom He called, these He also justified; and whom He justified, these He also glorified.**

He calls those who He choses to include

Calling and Election

Romans 9:11

(for the children not yet being born, nor having done any good or evil, that the purpose of God according to **election** might stand, not of works but of Him who **calls**)

Matthew 22:14

"For many are **called**, but few are **chosen**."

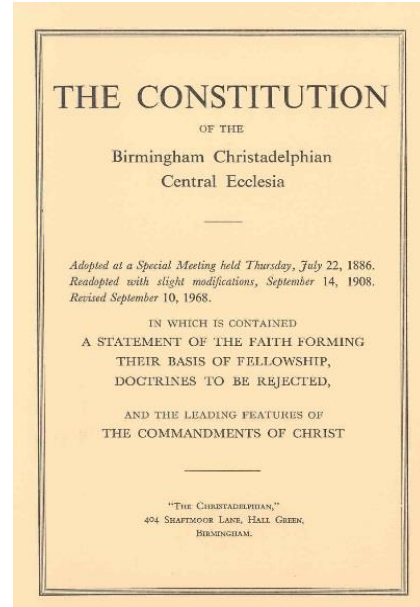
2 Peter 1:10

Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your **call** and **election** sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble.

Election is more selective!

Clause 24 of our BASF

24. That at the appearing of Christ prior to the establishment of the Kingdom, the responsible (namely, those who know the revealed will of God, **and have been called upon to submit to it**), dead and living – obedient and disobedient -- will be summoned before his judgment seat "to be judged according to their works," and "receive in body according to what they have done, whether it be good or bad." [2 Cor. 5:10](#); [2 Tim. 4:1](#); [Rom. 2:5-6, 16](#); [14:10-12](#); [1 Cor. 4:5](#); [Rev. 11:18](#).



We sometimes forget the essential part "and have been called upon to submit to it" or as Paul says "those who are called according to His purpose" (Rom 8:28)

What does God's election get you?

- **Didn't guarantee eternal life!**

Most of Jacob's descendants were not faithful!

- **Provides you with the privilege of having God work with you,** as a Father with his child, to train you to live by faith, so you can be in His family forever!



God's election provides us the privilege of a spiritual trainer with the possibility of joining Him forever

When People Walk Away...

A man in a red and white plaid shirt and dark pants is walking away from the camera on a gravel path. The path leads into the distance, flanked by grass and trees. The sky is overcast.

They may have
been called but
by free will
choose to leave

Or they may not have been called by God

2 Kings 8:19

19 Yet the LORD would not destroy Judah, **for the sake of his servant David, as He promised him to give a lamp to him and his sons forever.**

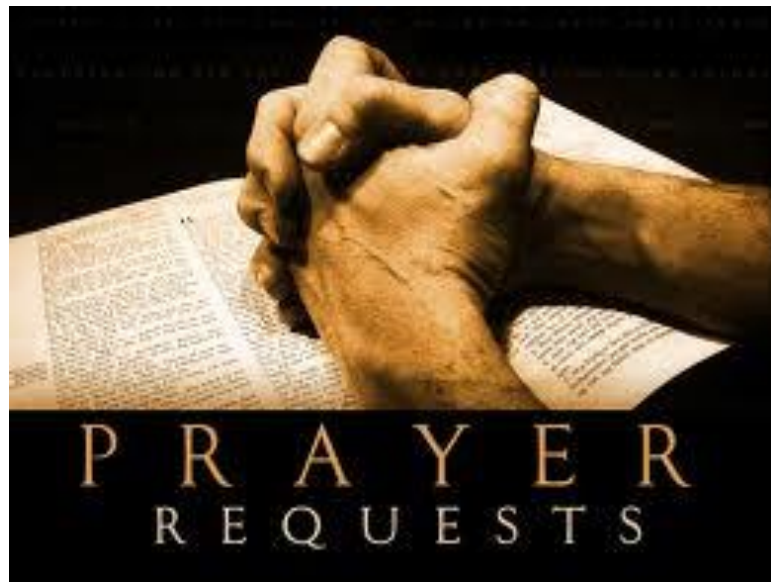
**God's election is related to promises
He makes to people before us!**

Romans 11:28-29

28 Concerning the gospel they (Jews) are enemies for your sake, **but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers.**

29 For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

**Israel's election is still based
on promises God made to
Abraham & Isaac & Jacob**



Pray for your
family, ecclesia
and friends!

Ask God to graciously
include them in His
election!



Does God train everyone who has the possibility of developing a life of faith?



- **No! Paul already showed in Romans 1-3** that no one deserves God's favor & none have the right to God's mercy
- **He graciously chooses (elects) who He wants** to attempt to save – actually very few!
- **Out of the 7 billion people on our planet now,** Christadelphians are certainly NOT the only people God can elect!

God's election is a privilege!

How God's Election works

Not drawn
to scale!

All people alive

Those who could be soft clay or good ground

Those God calls

Those chosen or justified
(they respond by free will)

Those glorified
(they remain faithful)

Key: No one deserves God's Mercy

Romans 9:14-18

14 What shall we say then? **Is there unrighteousness with God?** Certainly not! 15 For He says to Moses, "**I will have mercy on whomever I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whomever I will have compassion.**" 16 **So then it is not of him who wills, nor of him who runs, but of God who shows mercy.** 17 For the **Scripture says to the Pharaoh, "For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth."** 18 **Therefore He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.**

**It's not our choice or
up to us to make it happen**

How can God do that? Is it Fair? (14)

Paul gives Bible proof! (Ex 33)

- Moses wanted everyone in the whole nation forgiven: “this nation is your people” (33:13)
- God says to Moses “for **you** have found grace in my sight, and I know **you** by name” (Ex 33:17)
- God will have mercy on whom He chooses to show mercy (Ex 33:19)
- God, when speaking to Moses, refers to the nation now as “**your people**” (Ex 34:10)
- God pardoned the nation, but did not forgive many individuals in the community!



**It's not of him who wills (man's desire),
or him who runs (man's effort), but God
who shows mercy (9:16)**

**Abraham willed Ishmael, Isaac willed Esau,
Moses willed his whole nation**

God used Pharaoh to show His power & declare His Name (9:17)



- **God's used Pharaoh to show God's power** and demonstrate God's salvation
- **Pharaoh had a hard heart towards Israel all along** (Ex 8:15) – Angels made sure he rose to power at the right time.
- **God hardened Pharaoh's heart** – encouraged him to do what Pharaoh wanted to do (Ex 9:12)
 - God didn't make Pharaoh evil
 - Pharaoh was influenced by his counselors (Ex 14:5)

God will have mercy on whom He wills, and harden whom He wills (18)

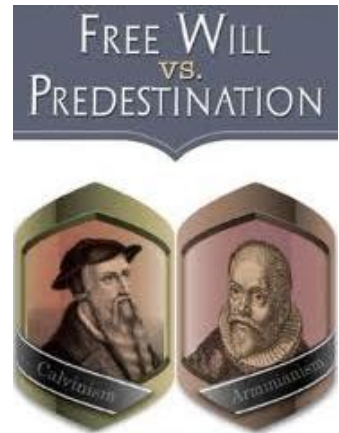
Do we still have freewill?

Romans 9:19-21

19 You will say to me then, "**Why does He still find fault? For who has resisted His will?**" 20 But indeed, **O man, who are you to reply against God?** Will the thing formed say to him who formed it, "**Why have you made me like this?**" 21 **Does not the potter have power over the clay, from the same lump to make one vessel for honor and another for dishonor?**

It's all God's creation so He can choose who He wants to extend mercy to

Jewish Response: Why does God blame us for our mistakes if God influences us do His will? (19)



- **Potter** has power over clay, but clay has freewill
- **Jer 18** Potter works on the clay, but once the clay is hardened, there is nothing the potter can do but smash the clay! The clay made a choice!
- **Isa 29:16** The clay can't question the potter when the clay has refused to acknowledge the potter (vs 9-15)
- **Isa 45:9** Clay shouldn't question potter when it doesn't know what the potter is doing
 - Note context: God raised up Cyrus to release Israel (v.4) & God's in control of the captivity. He's working for His family (v.11)

**God's purpose with Israel was national –
it will be accomplished – He never
promised to save every Jew**

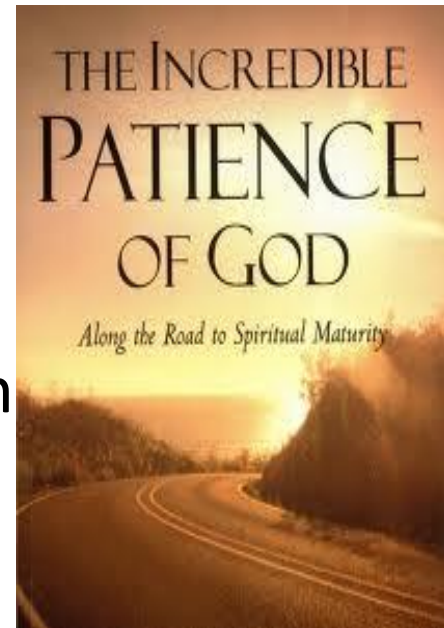
God has a reason for waiting

Romans 9:22-24

22 What if **God, wanting to show His wrath and to make His power known,** endured with much longsuffering the **vessels of wrath prepared for destruction,** 23 and **that He might make known the riches of His glory on the vessels of mercy,** which He had prepared beforehand for glory, 24 **even us whom He called, not of the Jews only, but also of the Gentiles?**

He waited & endured for the sake of the vessels of mercy - like with Pharaoh

Why does God wait so long to show His wrath against hardened clay? (v. 22)



- **For the sake of the workable clay** so He can show mercy on the vessels that respond (v.23)- they learn the “riches of His glory”
 - God prepared these vessels beforehand
 - God’s election, God’s calling (Rom 8:29-30)
- **So, the many plagues on Egypt were to develop God’s children** (Jews & Egyptians), not for those who were to be destroyed!
- **God is working with both Jews and Gentiles**
- **In Paul’s day**, God was patiently waiting with hardened Jews so He could save some Gentiles!

All things are for your sakes! (2Cor 4:15)

"Not my People" can become "My People"

Romans 9:25-26

25 As He says also in Hosea: "I will call **them [Jews]** My people, who were not My people, and her beloved, who was not beloved." (Hosea 2:23)

26 "And it shall come to pass in the place where it was said to them,

' You are not My people,' (Hos 1:10)

There they shall be called sons of the living God."

**This principle can be applied to
Jews or Gentiles**

God intends to save some Gentiles & a remnant of Jews



- **Hos 2:23** – Why does Paul use this reference? He had so many passages that prove Gentiles will be called
 - If God can take “not my people” Jews and restore them, He can also take “not my people” Gentiles and save them!
 - Jews had to realize they needed God’s mercy & this should compel them to accept that Gentiles can get it too
 - Paul went through this himself (1 Tim 1:13,16)
- **Rom 11:30-32** Paul uses this to show Israel will one day be jealous of the mercy shown to Gentiles and turn to God to be restore as “my people”
- **Deut 32:15** Paul’s authority to use Hosea this way! Moses said God would make Israel jealous by a nation that is not his people [Lo-ammi]

**Both Jews & Gentiles need to
be grafted into God's tree!**



God only intended to save a Remnant

Romans 9:27-29

27 Isaiah also cries out concerning Israel:

"Though the number of the children of Israel be as the sand of the sea, **the remnant will be saved.**

28 For He will finish the work and cut it short in righteousness, because the Lord will make a short work upon the earth." [Isa 10:22-23]

29 And as Isaiah said before:

"Unless the Lord of Sabaoth had left us a seed, we would have become like Sodom, and we would have been made like Gomorrah." [Isa 1:9]

**Without God involved in our lives
we would all become like Sodom**

Isaiah taught that only a remnant of Jews would be saved!



- **Isa 10:23** only a remnant will be saved – not all Israel – even though they were as the sand of the sea (promise to Abraham – Gen 22:17)
 - Paul quotes the Septuagint: “He will finish the work”
- **Isa 1:9** Without God’s intervention, Israel would have become like Sodom & Gomorrah
 - “*Lord of Sabaoth*” – purposely doesn’t use Yahweh!
 - **James 5:4** – James doesn’t either
 - Probably didn’t want anyone thinking there was some special Jewish connection to God
 - In the NT, since Jesus was on the scene, God became known as “our Father”

**Most Israelites were unfaithful &
God could only save a few**

Yahweh is purposely left out of the N.T.

And as Isaiah said before: "Unless the **Lord of Sabaoth** had left us a seed, We would have become like Sodom, And we would have been made like Gomorrah."
(Rom 9:29)

Indeed the wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out; and the cries of the reapers have reached the ears of the **Lord of Sabaoth.** (James 5:4-5)

It probably became divisive between
Jews & Gentiles, so was not used!

N.T. writers did use Hebrew

Then He (Jesus) took the child by the hand, and said to her, "**Talitha, cumi,**" which is translated, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." (**Mark 5:41-42**)

And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, "**Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?**" which is translated, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?" (**Mark 15:34**)

It probably became divisive between Jews & Gentiles, so was not used!

The Yahweh name in meaning

Revelation 1:4

John, to the seven churches which are in Asia:

Grace to you and peace from **Him who is and who was and who is to come**, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne (Rev 1:8; 11:17; 16:15)

**Rather than use the Yahweh name,
it's meaning is referred to**

Gentiles are being saved by Faith

Romans 9:30-33

30 What shall we say then? **That Gentiles, who did not pursue righteousness, have attained to righteousness, even the righteousness of faith; 31 but Israel, pursuing the law of righteousness, has not attained to the law of righteousness. 32 Why? Because they did not seek it by faith, but as it were, by the works of the law.** For they stumbled at that stumbling stone. 33 As it is written:

"Behold, I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offense, [Isa 8:14]

And whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." [Isa 28:16]

Israel failed because they stumbled over trying to become righteous by Law



Faith has always been the key!



- **Gentiles** who didn't pursue righteousness, actually attained it through faith
- **Jews** who pursued a law of righteousness by works, did not attain it because they lacked faith
 - They stumbled over “the stumbling stone” (Isa 8:14-15 & Isa 28:16)
 - “whoever believes on him” – Jews didn't believe, they lacked faith in Jesus



The stone of Faith saves the believers,
but unbelievers stumble over it!

Next Class!.....

Romans 10: Israel's misguided zeal for righteousness



OFFERINGS

